question as to how far relief could be given to consumers in general would be examined by the Government.

The PRESIDENT added that since the power that could be generated was not enough to meet all requirements, the question of extending the lines to many more places could not be thought of at present. As regards the reduction of the existing rates, however, Government would consider whether any relief could be granted to the consumers of power for various purposes.

GENERAL RESOLUTIONS.

Resolution No. 1.

Compulsory Primary Education.

Mr. B. L. BYANNA moved the following resolution :—

"This Assembly recommends to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja that primary education in Mysore be made compulsory as early as practicable."

He explained that it was a well-known fact that the Elementary Education Regulation which was passed 6½ years ago had failed to achieve its object and this fact had been admitted by the Director of Public Instruction also. The reasons for the failure could be analysed under three heads: (i) the parties responsible for providing funds; (ii) the agency for working out the Regulation; and (iii) the syllabus

As regards funds, he stated that the agreement about providing funds in the proportion of one-third and two-thirds had been broken by both the parties to the undertaking, *viz.*, the local bodies and the Government. With regard to the second and third points, the issues involved were of a highly technical nature, and some of the members of the school boards, etc., might not be able to study all the problems in sufficient detail. Besides, the school boards had to decide all questions at meetings but for want of quorum, meetings could not be held sometimes. Even when they were held, opinion was not unanimous and business did not always go on smoothly. For these and other reasons, the agency entrusted with the responsibility of carrying out the intentions of the Regulation was not working efficiently. The main result of that was that satisfactory schemes could not be prepared by them and so no progress was possible. For this reason, the Education Department would do well not to wait for the receipt of schemes from the local education authorities but to get them drawn up by the departmental officers themselves on behalf of the former. As regards the syllabus, he remarked that it was very old and ill-suited to modern conditions and suggested that it should be altered suitably.

In regard to the observation of the Director that the raiyats were not showing sufficient earnestness in the matter of sending their children to schools, the member explained that it might, among other reasons, be due to the fact that the raiyat, being too poor to pay for hired labour, was compelled to keep his children at home for the purpose of helping him in agricultural work or in grazing his cattle. Mysore was backward educationally when compared to sister States like Baroda, Cochin and Travancore, where the percentage of literacy was very high, and the backwardness in Mysore was due to the fact that the Government of the State had lost sight of its elementary duty of providing primary schools in all the rural parts. Seeing this, and in the hope of being able to get for their children facilities for education near at hand, the raiyats went on paying the education cess for the past 12 years, but the hope remained unfulfilled still. At the time the cess was proposed and the raiyats were opposed to it, the Government had promised to provide schools in almost all the villages and also make education free. But in practice, however, in addition to not fulfilling that promise the Government had also reduced the grant for primary education after levying the cess. The grant for primary education which stood at Rs. 22 lakhs originally had come down to Rs. 21 lakhs. The Government seemed to be saving Rs. 1 lakh annually. And yet whenever requests for new schools were made, the Government went on pleading financial difficulties. It was not known

how long the Government could go on pleading inability to open new schools. Even if they waited for several years more, there could be no question of adding to the burden borne by the raiyat. The Dewan himself had acknowledged that the people of the State could not bear any more tax burdens. The Government, the member said, must open the required number of primary schools in the villages and arrange for the education of all the boys and girls between the ages of 7 and 11, at the Government's own cost. Otherwise, he was afraid that the bulk of the population of the State would for ever be steeped in ignorance. For these reasons, he prayed for the acceptance of the resolution by the Government.

In seconding the resolution, **Mr. H. K. MADIAH** said that even though a large sum of money was being spent by the Government on account of primary education, much of the expenditure was going to waste since the raiyats were sending their children to school for only some months of the year, and keeping them back during the particular months when agricultural operations were brisk. Thus, the children would in no way be helped for their attendance at school, off and on. In other words, the expenditure incurred by the Government was not bearing fruit in so many cases. But this was not all. There were some defects in the schools also. For one thing, the staff, the equipment and other facilities in the schools were not at all such as to attract children of the villagers, and for another, the schools were far away from their homes in most cases. The Government must consider how best these defects could be rectified. But more than all, it had to be remembered that the ideal of spreading education throughout the State could never be achieved unless and until the Government introduced compulsion in addition to providing schools in all the villages as far as possible.

Mr. L. VEMA REDDY pointed out that it would not be possible to introduce compulsion throughout the State as most of the villages had no schools. He therefore suggested that to begin with, compulsion be introduced in places in which schools existed as well as in villages within a radius of a mile from such places.

The DIRECTOR of PUBLIC INSTRUCTION (Mr. N. S. Subba Rao) pointed out that before compulsion could be enforced by means of legislation, schools should be established everywhere and sufficient accommodation provided in each to take in all the pupils seeking admission. At present the department was trying to open primary schools in as many places as possible, and in so doing, it would be easier to show preference to places where local philanthropy was forthcoming in sufficient measure. It was unfortunately not possible for the Government to give schools for all places. When the required number of schools with the required staff and equipment were provided in each area, then it would be time to enforce compulsion, if necessary; that is, if it was found that children of school-going age were not attending the schools. Just now, however, seeing that schools had not been provided in several villages, whatever the reasons be, he argued that it would be unwise as well as purposeless to think of enforcing compulsion. Besides, compulsion was primarily and essentially a matter for examination by the school boards concerned. In this view, he commended the resolution passed recently by the Mysore District Board for enforcing compulsion in those villages in which sufficient accommodation, teachers and other equipment were available.

Mr. SUBBA RAO then referred to the next resolution on the agenda, suggesting the appointment of a mixed committee of officials and non-officials to report on the working of the Elementary Education Regulation, and stated that the position with regard to the needs as well as the actual progress achieved so far with regard to elementary education was too well-known to all. Under such circumstances he wondered what real benefit could be secured by appointing a committee as proposed. Reference to the need for revising the syllabus

had been made by the mover of the resolution. With regard to that, the speaker wished to say that a special committee of officials and non-officials had prepared a revised syllabus about a year ago which had been submitted to Government. In these circumstances, he felt that there was nothing left for any committee to do.

The speaker did not agree with the statement that the school boards had not been functioning properly. What really stood in the way of their achieving much was lack of finance. With their limited resources, however, they were doing their best. Where accommodation was found to be inadequate they were arranging to hold classes by shifts. Thus there was nothing new to be suggested by any committee. A committee would be necessary if it was likely to place new knowledge or new resources within the reach of the concerned agencies. It was pretty clear that no committee could give either of these two to the school boards. With regard to finance particularly, some of the speakers on this resolution had made reference to the Dewan's Address in which an assurance had been given that Government would not add to the existing burden of taxation. But that, the speaker **Mr. SUBBA RAO** contended, did not preclude local authorities, on their own initiative, from levying local taxes and improving their own resources for specific purposes like educational expansion.

Mr. MUSTAPHA SAHIB, interrupting, remarked that the schools opened in the villages contained only the first 4 classes, and the young pupils who were unable to go to other distant places for continuing their studies were gradually lapsing into illiteracy again. In order that the education they received up to the fourth year of the primary grade should not go to waste, the member urged the opening of at least a few middle schools in each district, to be centrally located so as to be of benefit to pupils from all the villages surrounding each of the schools.

Mr. SUBBA RAO explained that out of the schools already existing, there were classes up to the sixth year class in about 300 schools. In the other schools, however, it was thought sufficient if classes up to the fourth year class were provided for. Such an arrangement, he thought, with the additional understanding that for every 3 or 4 schools with only four classes each, there should be one central school with the fifth and sixth year classes also, ought to satisfy the educational needs of the villages, at any rate for the present. He likewise promised, in reply to a suggestion from Mr. Mahomed Mustapha Sahib, to provide teachers specially for taking classes in English in such central schools.

Mr. K. M. KRISHNAPPA GOWDA, who spoke next, regretted the plea of the Director that owing to financial reasons, Government were unable to open schools in larger numbers. The Government seemed to be waiting for a time when funds would become available in plenty, in order to be able to open schools in all the places where these were needed. But the speaker doubted whether such a time would ever arrive. From the trend of the observations made by the Director of Public Instruction, it looked doubtful whether the Government were going to enforce compulsory education at any time at all. Seeing that Government were able to finance several industrial undertakings, some of which were doubtful of success, he felt that it was up to the Government to tackle the problem of primary education without stinting the expenditure involved.

The PRESIDENT observed that it would be more useful if the member made definite suggestions as to the ways and means of finding funds—both the Government's share and that of the local bodies.

In reply, **Mr. KRISHNAPPA GOWDA** suggested the utilisation of the surplus shown in the budget or, in the alternative, the reservation annually of Rs. 5 lakhs out of the income from the Irwin Canal scheme or, in the last resort, the imposition of cuts in the salaries of officers of Government.

Messrs. MAYI GOWDA and **K. L. NANJAPPA NADIG,** however, considered that it would be enough if the revenue

from income-tax was earmarked for the purpose.

The PRESIDENT remarked that neither of the above suggestions was practicable. He assured the House that there was really no difference of opinion as between the Assembly and the Government about the need for extending primary education. He had no hesitation in promising that if the Government succeeded in getting the Subsidy abolished, the resulting saving would, as far as possible, be earmarked for the purpose. For the time being, however, the Assembly should rest content with the assurance that Government would do their very best to spread literacy in the State.

Mr. SYED KHAJI YUSUFF SAHIB was of opinion that it would be practically impossible for the Government to enforce compulsion in all parts of the State at any time, with the help of the Government grant only. He thought that a milder form of compulsion might be more feasible if an agreement was taken from the parent or guardian of every school-going child to the effect that the pupil would not be withdrawn from school before he or she passed out of the fourth year class and that in the event of any such withdrawal, the parent or guardian would refund to Government the cost incurred by the Government on account of such pupil's education. The terms of the agreement should be enforced by attaching, if necessary, the properties of the parent or guardian.

Mr. H. K. VEERANNA GOWDA thought that it would not be difficult to give effect to the scheme of compulsion at least in specific areas by transferring to them the languishing schools in other areas and by making some re-adjustments so far as the staff was concerned. At present the school board had to recommend and the District Board had to agree before such transfers could be effected; and as this often led to long delays, he suggested that the Elementary Education Regulation be suitably amended in order to obviate delays.

Mr. B. L. BYANNA, in winding up the debate on the resolution, expressed surprise at the statement of the Director of Public Instruction that the local education authorities had been working satisfactorily, even though the same officer had complained time and again that they were not working satisfactorily and had failed to submit proposals to the department in the matter of extension of primary education in accordance with the Elementary Education Regulation.

Mr. N. S. SUBBA RAO remarked that the member had misunderstood him. The submission of schemes might have been delayed, but that would not warrant a conclusion that the local education authorities were not working at all.

Proceeding, Mr. BYANNA said that he was only trying to make out that the new arrangement had resulted in retarding progress on account of want of sufficient activity on the part of the local bodies.

As regards the finances required for working the scheme, he suggested the utilization of a portion of the Famine Reserve every year, pending the abolition of the Subsidy. There was no fear of the State having to face famines in the near future, so that the Government need have no hesitation in drawing upon the said Reserve for opening new schools in a number of villages, the amount withdrawn being repaid to the account of the Reserve in easy annual instalments. Over six years had elapsed since the Regulation was enacted and some such bold action would have to be taken if the needs of the situation should be adequately met. It would not do for the Government to say that compulsion could be enforced only after all places were provided with schools. On the other hand, they ought to do something in the meanwhile. The Government were expecting to realise an additional revenue of Rs. 5 lakhs by opening a new district. At least that revenue should be earmarked for meeting the expenditure on account of extension of primary education. The percentage of literacy in Mysore was only 8. This was a poor compliment to the reputation of the Model State. Being ahead of other administrations in so many matters, the State was very backward

educationally, compared with other Indian States. Strenuous efforts should be made to raise the percentage substantially so that Mysore might maintain her rank and reputation. In this view he hoped that Government would lose no time in accepting the resolution and giving effect to it immediately.

The FIRST MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina S. P. Rajagopalachari) stated that Government sympathised with the object of the resolution, but the question how far effect should be given to it would necessarily depend on the financial resources available.

Mr. BYANNA suggested that effect might be given to it to the extent possible, a beginning being made immediately.

Mr. S. P. RAJAGOPALACHARI explained that when once a new measure was undertaken by Government, it was necessary to work it efficiently. There would be no use ordering compulsion when many of the schools did not have adequate accommodation, staff and other facilities. Surely, such schools could not meet all the demand that would arise with the introduction of a scheme of compulsion. So Government had to proceed in the matter with due caution. But to say this was not to admit that Government were going to sit with folded hands, resting content with such progress as had been achieved so far. On the other hand, they had provided funds in the new budget for opening new primary schools. During the year which was drawing to a close, 104 such schools had actually been opened; and as more funds became available, Government would sanction still more schools.

The member next referred to the suggestion to appoint a committee and remarked that, as already explained by the Director of Public Instruction, there were no new matters for consideration and no new problems; so that a committee was quite unnecessary.

The resolution was then put to vote and passed, 33 voting for and 13 against.

At this stage, **the PRESIDENT** remarked that members of the House ought to weigh, with a due sense of responsibility, the *pros* and *cons* of matters coming up before them for decision and support or oppose measures according as they deserved. They must not hesitate to oppose or reject impracticable proposals simply because they might become unpopular by opposing or rejecting them. As representatives of the people and as leaders, the members should exercise their best judgment in deciding whether they should vote for or against any question under consideration.

Mr. K. T. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR disagreed with the remarks of the President and stated that members of the House were certainly using their best discretion and exercising their votes with a full sense of responsibility in all matters, so that they did not deserve those observations from the Chair. Particularly the question under discussion, relating, as it did, to primary education, was one which was nearest and dearest to the representatives of the people; and when 99 per cent of the subjects of the State were steeped in ignorance, it was natural for the former to so act as to secure all possible opportunities for educational expansion—an ideal which, doubtless, Government themselves desired though, for financial reasons, they might not find it possible to give effect to it immediately.

The PRESIDENT assured the House that nobody was more anxious to preserve the dignity and enhance the prestige of the Assembly than its own President. The observation was made by him as a true friend of the Assembly and in the best interests of the House itself, and it should be taken by the members in the spirit in which it was offered. As regards the House itself generally, he had always cherished the greatest regard for it as would, he hoped, become evident from his concluding remarks.

Mr. K. T. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR expressed the thanks of the Assembly for this explanation from the Chair.

Resolution No. 2.

Appointment of a Mixed Committee to

report on the Working of the Elementary Education Regulation.

Mr. S. C. MALLIAH moved the following resolution :—

"This Assembly recommends to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja the desirability of appointing a mixed committee of officials and non-officials to report on the working of the Elementary Education Regulation in view of the fact that, though the Regulation has been in force for the last seven years, elementary education has not progressed and the villagers, who have been paying education cess for a number of years, have been feeling disappointed."

In doing so, he referred to the observation made by the Director of Public Instruction, while replying to the previous resolution, that examination of the question by a special committee would not be of any use and explained that if the finances of local bodies alone or of the Government alone had been under consideration, a committee might not be of much use. No doubt this was an important question, but there were also several other questions for consideration. Under the existing practice, the local education authority was practically responsible for the spread of primary education. But there was a school board which, though subordinate to that authority, was in direct charge of the affairs of the schools. Ordinarily speaking, the resolutions of this body had to be approved by the local education authority and then submitted to the head of the department for sanction and then alone effect could be given to any resolution. Under that procedure, there were several obstructions to normal educational progress in the districts. For example, in the matter of closing down a languishing school and giving a school in its place to another village, it took one year to obtain sanction for it. Local education authorities had other handicaps also. For instance, the Mysore District Board had resolved upon enforcing compulsion in some model villages where the required accommodation and staff were already available. But the proposal which was 9 months old, still awaited sanction. This went to show clearly that the system was defective and required improvement in the light of experience gained in the course of working the new Regulation. For this purpose the appointment of a committee as suggested in the resolution would be useful. Proceeding, the member observed that even though the Elementary Education Regulation had been in force for 6½ years, the State had not made any substantial progress. Naturally therefore the raiyats who were paying the education cess were feeling extremely disappointed. At the time the education cess was proposed, the people had hoped that every village would be provided with a school and therefore agreed to pay the cess. And according to the Elementary Education Regulation the period stipulated for full effect being given to the scheme and providing every village with a primary school was ten years, of which 6½ years were already over and only 3½ years remained. The progress achieved so far being, as already stated, practically nil, everything necessary had to be begun and completed within the said 3½ years. The member therefore suggested that, if not on a basis of compulsion, a school for every panchayat be given within the said period, at least on a voluntary basis. Some such systematic work must be taken up in the interests of justice and equity. At present, however, justice and equity were not much in evidence. The education cess was being collected from all the villages, but schools had been opened only in a few of them. The Government should no longer delay the fulfilment of their promise, or expect the people to wait indefinitely for the establishment of schools in all the villages. It was a bounden duty, both morally and legally, of both the Government and the local bodies concerned to strive to give full effect to the Elementary Education Regulation. With a view to explore the ways and means of doing it as well as to suggest how to remedy the defects and overcome the difficulties in the working of the existing Regulation, the member urged that a mixed committee as suggested would be highly desirable.

In this view he prayed that the resolution might be accepted by the Government.

In seconding the resolution, Mr. H. K. MADIAH explained that it would not be

possible for the Representative Assembly, being an unwieldy body and not being in session except for a few days in the year, to tackle in all its details the question of giving effect to the Elementary Education Regulation. A special committee, on the other hand, would be in a better position to thresh out the question in all its aspects and submit concrete recommendations which might help, if in no other way, at least to avoid inordinate delays in settling the question. Some such device was absolutely necessary because at present school boards ordinarily met only once a month, district boards once a quarter, and the resolutions of the one should be first approved by the other and then submitted to the department and so on. The committee might be requested to suggest the necessary amendments to the Regulation, so as to avoid delays and make the Regulation more easily workable.

Speaking for the Government, **the DIRECTOR of PUBLIC INSTRUCTION (Mr. N. S. Subba Rao)** said that the Government would be pleased to appoint a committee as suggested.

The resolution was accepted.

Resolution No. 3.

Reduction of Assessment in Kolar.

Mr. S. RAMAPPA moved the following resolution:—

"This Assembly recommends to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja that the existing rates of assessment in Kolar District, which are higher than the rates current in the other districts, be reduced by 25 per cent."

In doing so, the member represented that the subject of this resolution was being pressed on the attention of the Government at almost every session of the Assembly in the form of resolutions, representations, or questions. Government had also been promising every time to deal with the matter but not actually doing so. It was well-known that the Kolar District besides being a dry district was long suffering from the burden of excessive taxation. That the rates were excessive had been brought to notice 40 or 50 years ago at the time of the original settlement itself, and the Survey Superintendent himself had admitted it soon after, but because the settlement was over, the Government pleaded inability to alter the rates and said that the matter would be taken up at the time of the re-settlement. At the time of the re-settlement in 1925-26, not only was the promise of Government ignored and the previous rates continued in most cases, but in some cases the rates were further enhanced in spite of protests from the landholders. Subsequently, seeing that the members from the Kolar District were repeatedly pressing for a revision of the rates, the Government appointed a committee some years ago to examine the question. But on receipt of the report of that committee, the Government ordered that a general reduction of assessment in that district could not be effected. The first reason assigned by the committee against a reduction of rates was that in the face of the survey guarantee the Government would not be in order in interfering with the rates before the expiry of the stipulated period. But in the opinion of the member, the survey guarantee was not going to be an insurmountable difficulty if only the Government made up their mind to help the agriculturists in distress. If only they were convinced that some relief was called for, they could go on granting remissions from year to year until the next re-settlement, and this would not go counter to the terms of the survey guarantee.

The second reason adduced by the committee was that no great relief would be afforded to the raiyat even if a reduction of assessment by a few annas was shown while the total loss of revenue so far as the Government were concerned would be very considerable. Proceeding, the speaker stated that the average yield per acre of land in Kolar District was only Rs. 5. The taxes, cesses, cost of manure and cost of labour amounted to Rs. 2-12-0 or Rs. 3 so that the net income to the raiyat was generally not more than Rs. 2. The average agriculturist did not own more than a few acres of land so that the net earning from land in his case at the rate referred to, was hardly enough for maintaining

himself and family. Such a person was bound to appreciate the reduction of assessment even by a few annas. In reply to the argument that the loss to Government would be very considerable even though the relief given to individuals was only to the extent of a few annas, he pointed out that a fall in revenue to the extent of one or two lakhs of rupees was not going to dislocate the administrative machinery in the case of a Government dealing in crores of rupees. It so happened at the time of the original settlement that a certain classer suggested high rates of assessment and higher officers simply adopted or approved those rates. Since then the raiyats of the district kept on representing their case but the authorities paid no heed to all the representations. Somehow the raiyats managed to pay the assessment so far, but at the present time they felt that they could no longer pay at those rates. For these reasons, he urged the Government not to think too much of the anticipated loss of revenue but to accept the resolution and go to the rescue of the hard-hit and economically backward raiyats of the Kolar District.

In seconding the resolution, **Mr. L. VEMA REDDY** said that the question had not been brought up before the House without a due sense of responsibility on the part of the movers and without due regard to the financial position of the Government. He urged that the one point which Government should bear in mind in dealing with a question like this was that there ought not to be an invidious treatment of subjects in regard to one and the same matter. Explaining himself, he stated that the raiyats in the Mysore District were lucky in being provided with the maximum irrigation facilities while those in the malnad districts had the blessing of good monsoons, though in several other respects they had hardships and handicaps of their own. The Kolar District, unfortunately, had neither the irrigational facilities of the Mysore District nor the monsoons of the malnad. All the same the Government were deriving the highest income from that district by way of royalty from gold mines, electric power charges and income-tax revenue. And the revenue derived from land tax was also very considerable, notwithstanding the fact that the district was very dry. It was an irony of fate, he commented, that the people of that district were subjected to perpetual hardship and suffering. He appealed to the members from the other districts to support the resolution as an attempt on their part at affording relief to the raiyats of Kolar. He also appealed to the Government not to kill the goose that laid the golden eggs, but to keep it hale and healthy by accepting and giving immediate effect to the Regulation.

Mr. H. K. MADIAH opposed the resolution. Generally speaking, members from the Kolar District went on agitating, at every session of the Assembly, for more schools, more hospitals, and so on without considering where the funds required for providing the same should come from. It was for this reason that Government were finding it difficult to grant the prayers from the members of that district. So far as the resolution under discussion was concerned, he was somewhat surprised to find representatives of the Kolar District contending that the land revenue rates originally fixed were unjustly heavy. Personally he did not believe that the rates of assessment were unduly high, as he had complete confidence in the sense of justice of those who had fixed the rates at the time of the original settlement. And even granting that the rates were high, the raiyats in the Kolar District could have no grievance because the Government were granting remissions very liberally every year. In fact every issue of the *Mysore Gazette* contained orders relating to grant of remissions in the Kolar District so that it ought to be grateful to the Government for their liberality.

Mr. S. VENKATASWAMI GOWDA, interrupting, pointed out that the previous speaker was not competent to speak on the state of affairs in the Kolar District since he was an utter stranger thereto, neither living in that district nor even possessing any property therein.

Mr. H. K. MADIAH asserted that he was aware of agricultural conditions in the Kolar District as well as anyone else, and that, even though the rates of assessment in particularly fertile tracts might be high, he could not but feel surprised that members from that district were seeking to establish that excessive assessment was the general grievance of the district, which was far from the truth.

The REVENUE COMMISSIONER (Mr. K. V. Anantaraman), in replying to the debate, pointed out that the resolution related to a subject which had often come up before the Assembly. All the same, as the resolution had been discussed at length and as several speeches had been made in support of it, he felt it necessary to place before the members certain essential points connected with it.

The mover of the resolution referred to the committee appointed in 1931 for enquiring into the rates of land revenue assessment in the Kolar District, but he failed to mention the essential recommendations of the committee and the points contained in the Government Order thereon. The speaker would commend the members to make a detailed study of the Government Order as the various points raised in the course of the debate had been dealt with in it pretty exhaustively, and in particular, reasons were also given as to why the rates of assessment in the Kolar District were high. It was stated therein that the proposal to reduce the rates of assessment uniformly in all cases was neither practicable nor desirable, that the rates of assessment necessarily varied from district to district and taluk to taluk as the circumstances and conditions in all cases were not exactly the same and the rates of assessment themselves had to be fixed with reference to certain circumstances, *viz.*, special facilities such as roads, railways, markets, availability of raiyats, healthiness of the locality, etc. In fact these special facilities had been specifically mentioned in the committee's report in justification of assessment prevailing in the Kolar District. But this did not mean that the rates were unduly high, as was sought to be made out by some of the supporters of the resolution. In fact, they were generally the same as those on the adjoining tracts of the Bangalore District. So it would not be right to contend that the raiyats of the Kolar District paid very high rates.

Proceeding, **Mr. ANANTARAMAN** explained that the allegation that some classer was responsible for the very heavy rates fixed at the time of the original settlement had no foundation whatever. The same experienced officers who did settlement work in all other parts of the State did the work in the Kolar District also, and they did it according to well-known and well-accepted principles of settlement. Again, from the statistics available, it was evident that the average rainfall in the Kolar District was higher than in some other districts and not much below the average in other maidan tracts. The out-turn of the principal crops, too, was greater than in any other maidan district, excepting Bangalore. Further, water facilities like springs and wells etc., were available in a greater measure than in the other districts. These factors were as a matter of fact taken into consideration even at the time of the original settlement, and also the additional factor, *viz.*, the rates in force at the time of the settlement. There might have been an increase of assessment, if at all, to the extent of about 3,000 or 4,000 rupees and not more. Even subsequent increases might have been to the extent of only 7 or 8 per cent, while in other districts it had gone up even to 30 per cent.

Continuing, **Mr. ANANTARAMAN** examined the point whether the re-settlement in the Kolar District had really caused any hardship to the raiyats. In the interval between the original settlement and the re-settlement, and even after the re-settlement, there was a large extension of cultivation in the district. The area under cultivation had increased by 65·5 per cent since the original settlement and 29 per cent since the revision settlement. Taking the number of *darkhasts*, it was found that the number had risen from 1,174

to 7,199 in the course of one decade—representing 28 per cent of the increase for the State as a whole. There was also the test that the collection of land revenue in the district was quite easy and better than in other districts. In the face of so many points in favour of the existing rates of assessment, the speaker did not believe that the House would seriously think that there was anything wrong in the findings of the committee. At any rate, those findings had not been controverted by the members who had spoken so far on the resolution; this itself, he thought, was proof positive that the rates prevailing in Kolar were not unreasonably heavy.

He next referred to the economic position of the Kolar raiyat which had been adverted to by the previous speaker in support of the resolution and pointed out that the position of the average agriculturist throughout India was no better and that was due to a variety of causes. It would be hardly fair for anybody to throw all the blame for it on the land revenue policy mainly. So, even in the case of the Kolar District, it was obvious that the incidence of the land revenue assessment had scarcely anything to do with the poverty of the raiyat of that district.

So much for the case in general. As regards individual cases, it had always been the declared policy of the Government to grant adequate relief to the raiyats in all cases of special hardship. And so far as the Kolar District was concerned, there was a progressive increase in the remissions granted as indicated below:—

Year	Amount Rs.
1931-32	42,000 odd.
1932-33	44,000 ,,
1933-34	52,000 ,,
1934-35	1,16,000 ,,
1935-36	1,67,000 ,,

Mr. ANANTARAMAN also laid emphasis on the fact that even though the wet rates in Kolar were lower than in other districts, the Government had been granting liberal remissions in respect of wet assessment. All these went to show that Government had been giving necessary relief in all deserving cases, and if it became necessary, still greater relief would also be provided to the extent their finances permitted.

Mr. ANANTARAMAN concluded with a hope that, in the face of the foregoing facts, the allegation that the raiyats were frequently representing their grievances but Government were not viewing the representations with due sympathy, would never again be made on the Floor of the House.

In winding up the debate on the resolution, the mover Mr. S. RAMAPPA, said that he was not satisfied with the reply of the Revenue Commissioner. The contention that because of the existence of certain facilities in the Kolar District the rates of assessment were pitched high was not tenable. A comparison of the average rates of dry assessment in the other 3 districts of the maidan showed that the rates in Kolar were the highest. The original settlement took place about 50 years ago and the resettlement about 15 years ago, when the district had not been endowed with most of the facilities alluded to by the Revenue Commissioner. For example, the railway line from Bangalore to Bowringpet was constructed subsequent to the original settlement. Even in the matter of marketing facilities, Kolar lagged behind other districts at that time, being far removed from trading centres like Bangalore. Hence none of these points could have influenced the fixation of rates at that time.

The Revenue Commissioner had referred to the increase in the number of *darkhast* applications as one of the justifications for high rates of assessment. In answer to that argument the speaker explained that the increase was due to the fact that, in the absence of any other industry or occupation, the growing population of the Kolar District particularly was being increasingly driven to the necessity of resorting to agriculture. The member argued that this accounted for the extension of the area under cultivation and should never

be taken as a sign of prosperity of the people of the district.

As regards the other point referred to by the Revenue Commissioner, *viz.*, the ease with which land revenue was being collected, the speaker said that almost every member of the Assembly could testify to the fact that satisfactory collection in most cases was due entirely to the coercive processes employed by the local revenue authorities.

He next referred to the Revenue Commissioner's claim that Government had been quite liberal and sympathetic to the Kolar District in the matter of granting remissions and said that, if at all, the district had received certain concessions, as per Standing Orders, in common with other districts. He did not agree that any special concessions had been extended to the Kolar District at any time. Such grants, he conceded, might have been frequent, but that in itself was enough to show that the raiyats of the district had not been getting on very well and to lend further strength and support to the resolution. It was true that conditions at present were worse than before and the raiyats were on the verge of famine, as was evident from the fact that the authorities were already taking preventive measures to combat it in the Bagepalli Taluk. The Revenue Commissioner also mentioned healthiness of the tract as one of the reasons for high rates of assessment. Health conditions were generally satisfactory in all the maidan districts and there was nothing special about the Kolar District. Arguments like this made the Revenue Commissioner's reply look like an eye-wash, and the reply itself was not calculated to soothe the agitated minds or to give relief to the economically backward raiyats of the Kolar District. In these circumstances he appealed to the Government to accept the resolution and extend relief throughout the district as prayed for.

The FIRST MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina S. P. Rajagopalachari), speaking on behalf of Government, pointed out that the circumstances under which the rates of assessment in the Kolar District came to be fixed slightly higher than in other districts had been fully explained by the Revenue Commissioner. The financial effect of the resolution, if accepted, had also been explained by the Revenue Commissioner. For the reasons adduced by the Revenue Commissioner he regretted that Government could not give a flat reduction in all cases as suggested in the resolution.

Proceeding, he observed that not one of the members who had spoken in favour of the resolution had made any complaint against the existing rates of wet assessment in the district. That was evidently due to the circumstance that not only were wet rates in the district not high but the Government were very generous in the matter of granting remissions in all deserving cases. From the figures quoted by the Revenue Commissioner, the extent of the generosity with which remissions were given would be quite clear. As regards the dry assessment, no doubt the prevailing rates in certain taluks were slightly higher than those elsewhere except perhaps in a few tracts of the Bangalore District. But high rates were not a special feature only of the Kolar District; some other districts were also complaining likewise of heavy rates. It was therefore the Government's intention to make a general inquiry as to all the tracts in which dry assessment was unduly heavy and then consider how much relief was called for in every case and in what manner it should be given.

In the light of this explanation the resolution was withdrawn.

Resolution No. 5.

Encouragement to Mining Enterprises by State Subjects.

Mr. Bhupalam CHANDRASEKHARIAH moved the following resolution :—

"This Assembly recommends to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja that permission may not be granted to foreign companies for prospecting or for extracting from mines, gold and such other mineral wealth in the Mysore State by establishing factories, that after the expiry of the present period of the leases granted to the companies now working, no fresh permission or license be granted nor fresh agreements entered into, without consulting and obtaining the opinion of the Representative Assembly and the Legislative Council,

and that in future, the Government may take up or private companies in Mysore financed by Indian capital encouraged to take up the working of the mines and that all facilities be liberally afforded to such companies."

In doing so, he said that though Government deserved to be congratulated generally on their industrial policy, there was still scope for criticism since they were not making the subjects of the State take interest in industrial undertakings. The consequence of such a one-sided policy was, that, notwithstanding the availability of the requisite capital and labour in the State, the problem of unemployment among the educated middle classes was becoming more and more acute of late. It was necessary for the Government to give an industrial bias to the local people and induce them to take up the working of mines by affording them the necessary facilities and encouragement. Whatever justification there might have been in the past for allowing foreigners to exploit the gold mines, the speaker felt that Government should in future entrust the working of mines only to Mysoreans. Seeing that large undertakings like the iron and steel works, the paper mills and other factories were being managed by local talent, he said that Government should have no hesitation in showing preference to local people in the matter of granting leases. In this view, he urged for the acceptance of the resolution.

Mr. T. MARIYAPPA seconded the resolution.

The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (Mr. M. Venkatanaranappa), explained that the entire question of mining leases had been examined by the Government and necessary rules on the subject passed. Under those rules, the exploitation of mines merely for purposes of export was not permitted in some cases. Again, if it was found that any minerals would be of use to industries started within the State, preference would be given to local men in the matter of granting leases, and if necessary such minerals would be specially reserved for the State. And in cases where locally established companies came forward to take up mining work, every possible encouragement and concession would be given to them Thus the policy of Government in this matter was in no way different from that suggested in the resolution. If, however. private companies were not forthcoming and outsiders applied, and if the minerals concerned were not required for local purposes, then, the question of giving lease to such outsiders would necessarily have to be considered.

Mr. M. VENKATANARANAPPA next referred to the latter part of the resolution that Government should consult the Representative Assembly and the Legislative Council before leasing out any mines in the future and said that Government did not find it possible to adopt the suggestion. It would not be desirable to discuss details connected with individual applications on the Floor of either of the Houses. Government would however be glad to consult the Constitutional Houses in regard to questions of broad policy relating to mining leases.

Mr. T. MARIYAPPA enquired how the gold mines would be worked after the expiry of the existing lease.

Mr. M. VENKATANARANAPPA replied that the existing lease would not expire till 1970 and so there was plenty of time to consider that question.

Mr. Bhupalam CHANDRASEKHARA SETTY thanked the Government for their reply and said that what he desired was that the two Constitutional Houses should get opportunities for giving their suggestions in respect of the mining policy of the Government. It was not his intention that individual cases should be discussed by the Assembly or the Council. In particular, he was glad that Government had given the assurance that due preference would be shown to local people.

The FIRST MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina S. P. Rajagopalachari) stated that the Secretary to Government, Development Department, had explained the Government's mining policy in detail and added that Government would always be prepared to consider any suggestions made by the members in that behalf.

The resolution was thereupon withdrawn.

Resolution No. 6.

Appointment of District Committees for Restoration of Minor Tanks.

Mr. T. SHADAKSHARAPPA moved the following resolution :—

"As the minor tanks in the State do not hold sufficient water for the crops under them and as difficulty is caused thereby, this Assembly recommends to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja that a committee be appointed for each district to suggest measures for the restoration of minor tanks and that action be taken for their restoration in accordance with the report of such a committee."

In doing so, he explained that his ambition was to see that the agriculturists were enabled to derive the fullest possible benefit from the irrigation facilities already available in the State. Under the existing circumstances, a large number of minor tanks had either breached or silted up and so, were not serving their purpose. The Revenue and the Engineering Officers were not inspecting them periodically, nor doing anything to improve them. In the Chitaldrug District, particularly, there were no industrial concerns at work, and agriculture was the only occupation for all people of the district. In such a district, the majority of minor tanks were in a state of disrepair and the rainfall was also scanty. Hence crops could not be grown under those tanks. And yet, the level of taxation was very high and remissions also were not being granted. The Marikanve reservoir was serving only a part of the district, and all the rest of it was dependent upon the tanks for the necessary irrigational facilities. Such being the case, if the tanks continued to remain in disrepair, it would be impossible for the raiyats to get on. More or less similar circumstances existed in most of the other districts also. For these reasons, the member suggested the appointment of a committee for each district, consisting of a few representatives to help the local officers to examine the tanks in the district and make recommendations to Government in the matter of their restoration, so that necessary and timely steps might be taken in that behalf.

In seconding the resolution, Mr. A. BHEEMAPPA NAIK represented that minor tanks were the main prop of the Mysore raiyat more or less throughout the State. The Government were paying the greater part of their attention to channels and major tanks and neglecting minor tanks. In several places, the *atchkat* under minor tanks had increased and for that reason the water available was not sufficient for the crops under them. There were also tanks which had silted up but under which the *atchkat* remained as of old, and in such cases also, naturally, the lands could not get sufficient supply of water. As a result of all the available water being used up, the tanks had become dry. Therefore, if a committee consisting of select officers of the Revenue and the Engineering Departments, together with a few non-officials, was appointed in each district, it would deal with the question of regulating the supply of water and see that the raiyats derived the maximum benefit from the existing tanks. In the event of a drought or other emergency arising, such a committee would be in a better position to act promptly and afford immediate relief. The committee could also be entrusted with the duty of inspecting the tanks periodically, seeing to their proper maintenance and submitting reports to the Government from time to time.

Mr. H. KRISHNAMURTHYACHAR, however, did not believe that any useful purpose would be served by the appointment of a committee. It would only result in adding to the number of reports which lay unattended to in the archives of the Secretariat. What was really needed was the provision of adequate funds by the Government every year for a systematic restoration of all the minor tanks. For instance, several tanks remained without even waste-weirs and such cases would have to be attended to urgently. The grievances of the raiyats in this matter could be redressed only if the Government made up their mind to allot 4 to 5 lakhs of rupees annually and distributed the amount among the several districts with reference to the urgency and

importance of the work to be attended to in each area. It was absolutely necessary that all the tanks should be restored within a particular period of time, at least a few in each district being taken up every year.

Mr. L. VEMA REDDY, said that each minor tank was an asset to the State. Men and cattle alike needed them for their very existence. The tanks had been constructed ages ago in such large numbers for the convenience of the people of each locality and more especially for the reason that there were no large reservoirs at the time. The main object with which those tanks had been constructed was that people in all parts of the State should be happy and contented. But a handicap had set in for the raiyat with the silting up of the tanks in more recent years with the consequent reduction of the supply of water for wet cultivation. If the existing defects were not remedied, he was afraid that all the lands would become unfit for wet cultivation. And such a position had arisen because the people had no means of effectively bringing to the notice of the Government the condition of tanks. Even the elected representatives from the several taluks might not, he said, be aware of the peculiar difficulties which particular areas were experiencing in the matter. He thought that urgent action was called for in regard to tank restoration at least in the coming years. He felt that the appointment of a committee for each district, as proposed in the resolution, would be helpful in persistently bringing to notice the condition of each tank in the districts and furnishing necessary reports and suggestions to the concerned departments of Government as to what should be done in each case. The committees might be required to collect statistics relating to (i) the number of tanks serving any given area; (ii) their capacity; (iii) the ways and means of improving those tanks so as to enable them to serve the entire *atchkat* and (iv) the number of tanks beyond restoration or repair. The local Revenue and Engineering officers and the non-official members of the committee might meet and discuss the question, formulate definite proposals and submit them to the higher authorities. Under such an arrangement, he felt the work could be done both efficiently and expeditiously.

As the question was one in which both the Government and the people were keenly interested, he supported the resolution.

Mr. B. SRINIVASA RAO, on the other hand, opposed the resolution for the reason that he had not much faith in committees in general. He did not also agree that representatives of the people did not know the wants and grievances of the different parts of their own constituencies. But granting, for the sake of argument, that this was so in any particular case, all the information enumerated by the previous speaker could well be gathered by the representatives themselves, by touring the taluks and making needful enquiries of the people. He did not think that any committee was necessary for doing this work. If at all one was appointed, it would only result in unnecessary waste of public money on account of travelling allowances to the members of the committee.

Mr. L. VEMA REDDY proposed that no travelling allowances need be paid to the members.

Messrs. MIR MAHOMED HUSSAIN and **K. VENKATARAMIAH** were also of the view that the committees proposed were unnecessary. They said that the Government ought to be prepared to spend about Rs. 3,000 on each tank and restore it. As regards earth-work and silt clearance, they urged that the old practice of getting the raiyats of the locality to attend to these items should be revived forthwith and in all cases.

Mr. Y. V. MUNISWAMI IYER pointed out that the object of the resolution could be achieved only by means of additional grants from Government and not by the appointment of committees. He was also of the opinion that with the transfer of the responsibility for supervision of tanks from the Amildars to officers of the Engineering Department, tanks had become nobody's care and this was why they were going from bad to worse each day. He therefore

advocated a retransfer of the said duty to the Amildars.

Mr. B. SRINIVASA IYENGAR agreed with the previous speaker that Government must give enhanced grants for tank restoration and insist on the concerned departments to show good progress in working out the grant.

In further supporting this view, **Mr. K. RAMASESHA SASTRY** put up a special plea for enhanced grants from Government for restoration of minor tanks, especially because the number of breached tanks was mounting up from year to year.

In winding up the debate, **Mr. T. SHADAKSHARAPPA** assured the Government that members of the Assembly could be trusted to tour their respective taluks and ascertain the conditions thereof first-hand. If it was stated that the officers of the Revenue and the Engineering Departments were also touring and seeing things for themselves, he would ask why so many tanks remained uncared for and all the grievances brought to notice had gone unredressed. It was because the Government, or their representatives in the districts, had not discharged their responsibilities satisfactorily to the people and because, in the speaker's opinion, the recommendation of a specially constituted committee would be more authoritative and carry greater weight, that he was advocating the appointment of a committee. It was not his intention that any single district should have the benefit of the work of such a committee but that each district should have a committee of its own. He concluded by emphasising that unless minor tank restoration work was taken on hand without loss of time and with due earnestness, the economic condition of the State could not improve.

The PRESIDENT replied that committees as proposed in the resolution might not be very useful but that suitable instructions would be issued to the Public Works Department to see that the work of restoration of minor tanks was attended to more systematically than at present and on as large a scale as possible.

PRESIDENT'S CONCLUDING REMARKS.

Mr. C. K. VENKATARAMAIYA, Kannada Translator to Government, read the Kannada version of the President's concluding remarks, which were as follows :—

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

In winding up the proceedings of this session, I should like to say a word or two with reference to the observations made by the members in regard to the budget.

I was very glad to note that the opinion of the House was generally in favour of the proposals placed before it. There were, however, criticisms—some based on a misapprehension of the facts, others arising from a difference in our respective points of view. I may allude to just one item, namely, the entry of Rs. 2·82 lakhs shown as expenditure met from Funds. As I have stated in my opening address, this is a recurring item of interest receipt from the investment of a fund requiring no further augmentation, which could well have been included as an ordinary item of revenue under "Interest." Though shown outside the ordinary Revenue account, it does not really represent any withdrawal from the Famine Reserve Fund. While some members stated that the balance of this Fund was inadequate and that the accrued interest should have been added to it, there were others who urged that a larger amount should have been drawn from this Fund for carrying out irrigation works.

A few other members compared the expenditure of the State under certain major heads for 1930-31 with the provision in next year's budget, and remarked that the grants for next year were much less than those in 1930-31, although there was considerable increase of revenue in the interval. As the Financial Secretary explained to the House, this was an exceptionally bad year, when the expenditure exceeded the revenue by as much as Rs. 61 lakhs, and the net improvement in revenue to the extent of Rs. 50 lakhs during these six years was naturally utilised in filling

up the vast gap between revenue and expenditure. And we had to keep the expenditure down at the old level. Now that the financial position is distinctly better, the grants for public improvements in next year's budget are on a more liberal scale than in 1930-31 or 1931-32.

It was stated that while the borrowings of the State represented cash liabilities, the assets were all of a fixed character representing capital outlay on works and there were no liquid assets readily realisable for meeting the liabilities payable in cash. I am afraid this is not the correct position. You will see from page 86 of the Financial Secretary's Memorandum that we have got—apart from fixed capital assets—liquid assets amounting to about Rs. 7½ crores in the shape of cash and investments in securities, in addition to short-term loans and advances aggregating Rs. 1½ crores.

As usual, there was a general demand for increased grants for schools, hospitals, wells, tanks and rural improvement. I need not say that Government are at one with the House in feeling that much more should be spent on these items, and you need no assurance from me, I hope, that they are doing their best in this direction within the financial and other limitations imposed upon them. As a matter of fact, extra provision has been made under all these heads in next year's budget and the grants for public improvements also show large increases over those of previous years.

In response to the opinions expressed both by this House and the Finance and Taxation Committee, Government have decided to increase the grant for the establishment of local fund dispensaries, from Rs. 2,500 to Rs. 8,000, meeting the excess by a corresponding reduction of the grant under "Europe Medicines and Instruments."

As regards the question of the grant to the Bangalore City Municipality for drainage works, about which a representation has been made in this House, Government recognise the necessity of making a suitable grant for carrying through this costly scheme. But, in view of the fact that the Bangalore City Municipality has recently raised a large public loan from which it could conveniently meet next year's outlay on drainage works, no contribution from Government is considered necessary for this year. Suitable provision will, of course, be made in the budgets of future years.

Very earnest representations were made by the members in the matter of irrigation works. I may assure the House that this is a matter to which Government are paying and will continue to pay close attention. As regards the specific projects referred to in the course of discussion, Government will be glad to investigate the Ragimakalahalli project once again with a view to seeing if the work could be taken up at an early date. As you know, I myself have been and am still very keen about this project, for I realise how badly a tank is needed in that neighbourhood. I may assure you that there is every intention of getting on with it unless it is found to be hopelessly unremunerative. The construction of a tank across Karethorehalla, in the Sira and Hiriyur taluks, will be sanctioned, and the work included in this year's programme.

Government agree with you that more rapid progress should be made with the repair and restoration of minor tanks. They will be glad to increase the grant under this head by Rs. 25,000.

The question of the bifurcation of the Mysore District, I regret to note, has not met with the support of many of the members of this House. The opposition is due, I am afraid, to an incorrect and imperfect appreciation of the real position. As you know, the district is by far the biggest in the State, in area, population and revenue. It presents special irrigational and other problems requiring close and continuous attention. Experience has shown that it is essential, in public interests, that the district should be split up into two if its problems are to receive sufficient attention. It is not merely the development of irrigation under the Irwin Canal that has suggested and necessitated this course. The malnad taluks of Heggaddevankote and Periapatna

require a more concentrated effort than it has been possible for the administration to bestow upon them. Government are convinced that time will wholly justify their decision. They are confident that the results will more than repay the recurring expenditure involved—it is only a matter of Rs. 35,000—and that the people of, what at present is, an unwieldy district will derive considerable benefit from its bifurcation.

It is a great satisfaction to me to be able to say that almost all the questions sent in by the members have been answered and that most of the representations and resolutions, too, have been disposed of.

Ladies and gentlemen, I thank you all for the very friendly spirit which has animated your discussions. A very pleasant atmosphere has prevailed throughout, even where you and we could not see eye to eye with one another. I cordially wish you a happy return to your homes, and a further spell of useful public activity, and I hope that the progress attained by our State will be steadily continued in the future. This progress, however, cannot be won by mere hopes but only by keen effort towards a common purpose in which all concerned—the people, the legislature and the administration—have each to play a part, and that purpose is the promotion of the welfare of the State and its people.

Mr. L. VEMA REDDY then proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the President and to the Members of Council for the patient hearing they extended to the various representations made by the members of the House in the course of the session, and for the sympathetic and encouraging replies they gave thereto. He also thanked the President for the very satisfactory arrangements which had been made under his orders with regard to accommodation, medical attendance, etc., for the convenience of the members. He then recited a verse in Kannada wishing long life and prosperity to His Highness the Maharaja, His Highness the Yuvaraja, Prince Jayachamaraja Wadiyar, and to the Mysore State in general.

The Assembly was adjourned at 11-35 A.M. *sine die*.

BANGALORE,
Dated 24th August 1937.

A. SUNDARARAJA RAO,
Secretary, Representative Assembly.